

WOMEN WIN '96

DON'T MISS THE WOMEN'S CAUCUS MEETINGS

10 am -12 pm DAILY
HYATT REGENCY, GRAND BALLROOM

TUESDAY:

DONNA SHALALA
Secretary of Health And Human Services

WEDNESDAY:

CONGRESSWOMEN CARDISS COLLINS AND PAT SCHROEDER

ELLEN MALCOLM
President, Emily's List

AND MANY OTHER WOMEN ELECTEDS AND WOMEN CANDIDATES

THURSDAY:

VICE PRESIDENT AL GORE

WITH
FORMER GOVERNOR ANN RICHARDS
&
LAURA TYSON, Chair, National Economic Council

Women Win '96

PROGRAM for

Democratic Convention Women's Caucus:

"Women and the Platform: The Issues That Move Us"

Tuesday, August 27, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon

Hyatt Regency Grand Ballroom

Lottie Shackelford, DNC Vice Chair

Linda Chavez-Thompson, Chair for the Day

U.S. Representative Barbara Kennelley

Representative Margaret Carter

Carolyn McCarthy, House Candidate

U.S. Representative Cynthia McKinney

U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer

Senator Velma Veloria

HHS Secretary Donna Shalala

PRESIDENT CLINTON ON THE ISSUES

Economy

- Signed the *Economic Package*, Aug. 10, 1993, which put into effect the largest deficit reduction plan in history
- Proposed a plan to *balance the federal budget* in 7 years
- Provided sound economic policies that have created nearly *10 million new jobs*
- *Cut the deficit in half* within the last 3 years
- *Cut federal spending* by \$255 billion over 5 years
- Made *new tax cuts* available to more than 90% of small businesses
- Lowest *combined rate of unemployment, inflation, and mortgage rates* in 27 years
- Created the Interagency Committee on Women's Business Enterprise
- Expanded women's access to capital by doubling the value of Small Business Administration loans to women-owned companies

Crime

- Signed a tough \$30 billion *Crime Bill* that has brought the crime rate down
- Signed the *Brady Bill*, which has prevented 60,000 people with criminal records from buying guns
- Signed the *Assault Weapons Ban* as part of the Crime Bill, which took 19 deadly weapons off the street
- Putting *100,000 new police on the street*--more than 30,000 additional officers already have been placed
- Signed the *Violence Against Women Act* as part of the Crime Bill
- Signed the *Safe and Drug-Free Schools Act* to expand security and violence prevention
- Signed a Presidential Directive enforcing a "*Zero Tolerance*" gun policy in schools
- Introduced *Operation Safe Home* to fight crime in public housing

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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- National Federation of Democratic Women
- DNC Women's Caucus
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- Sarah Dowling

Education

- Signed the *Student Loan Reform Act*, making college more affordable and saving taxpayers billions
- Signed the *National Service Act*, creating AmeriCorps, which allows 45,000 people to serve their communities while earning money for college
- Expanded Pell Grants for 3 million college students
- Signed the *Goals 2000: Educate America Act*
- Signed the *Elementary and Secondary Schools Act*
- Increased *Head Start* funding by almost \$760 million
- Launched initiative to link all classrooms and libraries to the "Information Superhighway" by the year 2000

Choice

- Supports *Roe v. Wade*
- Signed the clinic access law protecting women from intimidation and violence outside reproductive health clinics
- Supported the availability of RU-486
- Appointed pro-choice justices to the U.S. Supreme Court
- Vetoed the ban on late-term abortions necessary to protect a woman's health
- Supported a woman's right to choose in his campaigns for the Presidency and in his party's platform, which reaffirms the freedom to choose
- Supported international family planning programs designed to reduce the need for abortions
- Supports a woman's right to choose

PLATFORMS DO MATTER

Many people believe that party platforms don't matter. In fact, party platforms are the most reliable guide to how presidents and their parties will perform if elected. Studies done by political science scholars demonstrate that between 75 and 90% of platform planks do eventually become law.

History is full of platform promises kept:

- **Harry S. Truman's** insistence on a civil rights plan in the 1948 Democratic platform began the Democrats' steadfast commitment to equal opportunity.
- **John F. Kennedy** carried through on the 1960 Democratic platform commitments to establishing a Peace Corps and legislating arms control.
- **Lyndon Johnson** in 1965 finally implemented the repeated Democratic platform demand for Medicare as a guaranteed part of Social Security.
- The 1980 Republican platform promised, and **President Reagan** then pushed through, major cuts in education, job training, housing, and other social services, major increases in military spending, and significant tax cuts for the wealthy.
- The 1992 Democratic platform promised more and better jobs, more police on the streets, enactment of the Family and Medical Leave Act the Brady Bill and the assault weapon ban, expansion of the Earned Income Tax Credit, reduction of the deficit, streamlining the bureaucracy, and many other constructive initiatives. **President Bill Clinton has kept those and many more commitments!**

There is an old saying that platforms are to run on--not to stand on. NOT TRUE! Americans must pay attention to what parties say in their platforms, because there is a very high likelihood that they will live with the consequences.